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To	Mr. Lester Snow	From	Mary Anna McKinley		
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Mary Anna McKinley  
41033 Long Hollow Drive  
Coarsegold, CA 93614  
June 27, 1998

Mr. Lester Snow  
Executive Director  
CalFed Bay/Delta Program  
1416 Ninth Street  
Suite 1155  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Snow:

I am providing you with the following comments so that they may be entered into the formal record for CalFed's Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report and Statement:

I believe the alternatives identified in this document to be, at best, inadequate to address the restoration of the Bay-Delta ecosystem and, at worst, yet another short-sighted attempt to plumb the state so that more water is siphoned up-hill to power and money. None of the alternatives are acceptable, and I am extremely disappointed that CalFed spent so much time and money to come up with the same shop-worn recommendations. Another alternative needs to be developed that encompasses current understanding of ecological-interconnectedness--done with the goal of imagining the future rather than reliving the past.

An acceptable alternative would recognize and remedy the ignorance and waste that we allow in our present use of water in this state. Our profligate use/abuse of water must be stopped. A major portion of California is desert and semi-desert, and we can no longer allow behavior that pretends we have the same average rainfall as Michigan. This means conservation, behavior modification, working within nature. It also means NO new dams, reservoirs, peripheral canals to take water from where it belongs to deposit it where the local community is unwilling to use water within a budget appropriate to the average local rainfall. That the City of Fresno does not utilize water meters is one clear example of this unwillingness to face the exigencies of the local climate. Unfortunately the state is replete with many more bad examples.

The natural world we have left should be protected for future generations. We have wrecked as much havoc on it as we should be allowed. Now and in the future, we must avoid damaging natural processes which we so little understand, and we must recoup some of the losses from actions taken in our previous ignorance. Current knowledge should be used to restore to functionality the systems we have damaged. Watersheds should be restored; groundwater basins should be protected and reclaimed.

We need to work with the biological laws of nature rather than presume our technological capabilities provide us with superior plans.

In the past one hundred years in California we have built massive structures to modify nature, and we have lost the health of our delta, bays, rivers and the abundance of our birds and fish. We must learn from those mistakes. We should begin the restoration of those resources. The three alternatives chosen by CalFed offer no real means to do that.

In light of my interest in the potential CalFed has to do good or ill for California's people and environment, please ensure that I receive information on its progress. Thank you for entering my concerns into the record.

Sincerely,



Mary Anna McKinley